

**ARKANSAS
SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND
&
VISUALLY IMPAIRED**



ASBVI Lions

**Comprehensive School Counseling
Program
And Student Services Plan**

(Public School Student Services Act/ASCA Model® 4th Edition)

Arkansas School for the Blind Elementary

Teresa Doan, Lead Principal
Tyrone Williams, Assistant Principal
Jennifer Linder, Counselor
Meg Berry, ASB School Social Worker

Arkansas School for the Blind High School

Teresa Doan, Lead Principal
Tyrone Williams, Assistant Principal
Jennifer Linder, Counselor
Meg Berry, ASB School Social Worker

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- Counseling

Indirect Student Services

- Referrals
- Consultation
- Collaboration

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- ASCA School Counselor Professional Standards & Competencies Assessment
- School Counselor Performance Appraisal Template

DEFINE

School counseling standards for students and professional practice serve as the defining documents of the school counseling profession.

ASB Counseling and Mental Health Team

Jennifer Linder, M.Ed., CTVI
K-12 School Counselor
Work Cell: (501) 351-2395
jennifer.linder@asb.k12.ar.us

Meg Berry, LCSW
ASB School Social Worker
Work Cell: (501) 951-0623
meg.berry@asb.k12.ar.us

Behavioral Health Services of Arkansas
www.bhsarkansas.org
(501) 954-7470

School Counseling Standards and Competencies

ASCA School Counselor Professional Standards & Competencies (2019)
<https://www.schoolcounselor.org/asca/media/asca/home/SCCompetencies.pdf>

ASCA Ethical Standards for School Counselors (2016)
<https://www.schoolcounselor.org/asca/media/asca/Ethics/EthicalStandards2016.pdf>

ASCA Mindsets and Behaviors for Student Success: College- and Career-Readiness

Standards for Every Student (2014)

<https://www.schoolcounselor.org/school-counselors/about-asca/mindsets-behaviors>

G.U.I.D.E. for Life

<http://www.arkansased.gov/divisions/learning-services/guide-for-life>

MANAGE

To effectively deliver school counseling planned activities, strategies and interventions and to address all students' developmental needs, the school counseling program must be effectively and efficiently managed.

Beliefs

The Arkansas School for the Blind Counseling Program Believes:

- All students can learn to become self-advocates and resilient in facing life's challenges.
- All students should be accounted for and feel valued so their academic and emotional readiness is nurtured and they become ready to make a positive change on the world.
- All students' ethnic, cultural, racial, gender differences and special needs should be recognized and respected throughout the implementation of the school counseling program.
- All students shall have access to a school counselor who advocates for their academic, career and social/emotional needs.

Vision

Students of Arkansas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired (ASBVI) comprehensive school counseling program are self-directed and motivated to confidently pursue college and career opportunities and aspire to be successful productive contributing members of society. As a result of participating in the school counseling program, our students value the positive contributions of lifelong learning and demonstrate perseverance through challenges, empathy through service, and respect for self and others while appreciating diversity. Students from ASBVI use their strengths and talents to achieve success and reach their fullest potential.

Mission

The Arkansas School for the Blind & Visually Impaired school counseling program provides students with a safe and nurturing learning environment for all students. The school counseling program delivers developmentally appropriate activities including individual and small-group counseling based on the American School Counseling Association's ASCA Mindsets & Behaviors for Student Success K-12 College- and Career-Readiness Standards while abiding by the ASCA Ethical Standards for School Counseling. The school counselor collaborates with students, parents and staff members to address academic, social/emotional and college/career preparatory needs of students to gain knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary to achieve their current and future goals.

Program Goals

- To provide a comprehensive school counseling program to all K-12 students of Arkansas School for the Blind & Visually Impaired .
- To assure that students of Arkansas School for the Blind & Visually Impaired have access to at least one certified school counselor.

- To serve as an active, positive role model following ethical standards while advocating for all students.
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- To provide opportunities for students to develop mentally, physically, socially, and emotionally in the areas of academic, career and personal/social development.
- To help identify and evaluate factors early in a student's academic career that may lead to serious difficulties in later development.
- To provide counseling to assist each student in self-understanding, self-confidence, and problem solving.
- To provide effective listening and communication skills that will enhance personal interaction.
- To help students assume responsibility for their own behavior and future learning.
- To develop the student's awareness of the world of work, and the relevance of education concerning careers.

Assessments

Evaluation

- eSchool
- Test Scores
- Teacher Concerns
- Tracking Communication with Faculty and Parents
- Use of Time
- Individual Counseling Referrals
- Outside Mental Health Services Referrals

Data

- Attendance
- Documentation of Students Seen Individually
- Documentation of Students Seen in Small Group Counseling
- Whole Group Counseling Class Schedules
- Teacher Feedback (on programs and individual students)
- Needs Assessments for Students, Parents, and Staff
- Tracking Students Who Receive Outside Mental Health Services
- Utilizing eSchool and TRIAND to Collect Student Data Such As Grades, ACT Aspire Scores, Absences, Tardies, and/or Discipline

Delivery

The Deliver component defines the methods school counselors use to provide activities and services to students and for students.

Direct Services

G.U.I.D.E. for Life Program

Arkansas School for the Blind school's utilize the G.U.I.D.E. for Life Program within our daily counseling program. The G.U.I.D.E. the for Life program is designed to give students a five step process to help achieve their personal success. Using the G.U.I.D.E for Life process, schools will ingrain "real world" skills for success in all students. This will result in a stronger school community and teach the students to be productive citizens. The G.U.I.D.E. for Life Program focuses on strategies for personal growth, understanding yourself, interacting with others, responsible decision making, and showing empathy for others.

School Counseling Core Curriculum

- Whole group counseling lessons
 - Each elementary class receives one 30-minute whole group lesson per week

- Curriculum is developed around key character terms chosen by our school counselors.
- Follow up materials may be sent to the classroom teacher to continue the discussion after the lesson.
- Small Group Counseling Interventions
 - Students will be placed in small groups based on need
 - Family issues: divorce, sibling rivalry
 - School issues: academic struggles, classroom behavior issues, difficulty interacting appropriately with peers, new students
 - Groups addressing grief, anxiety, depression and other mental health issues may be created based on need.
- Individual Counseling
 - Students may complete a self-referral in order to visit with the counselor.
 - Teachers or other staff members may also refer a student to see the counselor as the need arises.
- Responsive services: activities designed to meet students' immediate needs and concerns. They may include counseling in individual or small group settings or crisis response.

School Counseling Core Curriculum: Counselors will provide structured lessons designed to help students obtain the desired competencies to provide all students with the knowledge, attitudes and skills appropriate for their developmental level. These will include social/emotional, career, academic lessons for whole and small groups, as well as individual counseling.

- **The following topics are also addressed and integrated throughout the duration of the school year:**
 - Bullying
 - Conflict Resolution
 - Career Education

- Personal Safety
- Growth Mindset
- Resiliency

Indirect Services Services

Services that are provided on behalf of students as a result of the school counselors' interactions with others including:

Referrals- for additional assistance, consultation and collaboration with parents, teachers, other educators and community organizations.

Consultation- School counselors collaborate with families, school staff and community agencies to develop interventions for students.

Assess

To achieve the best results for students, school counselors regularly assess their program to determine its effectiveness.

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